

NATIONAL EDUCATION COMMISSIONERS (IRELAND).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 25 February 1875 :—*for*,

COPY "of a LETTER of November 1874, of the CHIEF SECRETARY to the LORD LIEUTENANT of *Ireland* to the COMMISSIONERS of NATIONAL EDUCATION in *Ireland*, and of their REPLY to the same."

Irish Office, }
25 February 1875. }

COPY of a LETTER from the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland* to the Commissioners of National Education in *Ireland*.

Gentlemen,

Dublin Castle, 5 November 1874.

I AM directed by his Grace the Lord Lieutenant to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th June last, relating to the salaries, pensions, and residences of the national teachers of *Ireland*, and to acquaint you, for the information of the Commissioners of National Education, that Her Majesty's Government desire to take into their serious consideration the representations recently made in Parliament and elsewhere on these important subjects, and also on the vast number of untrained teachers employed in the national schools; and they feel assured that they can rely upon the cordial co-operation of the Board in their anxious endeavour to effect a satisfactory settlement of these questions, which vitally affect the welfare and efficiency of national education in *Ireland*.

The Board will remember that in December 1871, they submitted to the Government a Supplemental Estimate, amounting to 104,691 £, for the purpose of increasing the incomes of the national school teachers in *Ireland* on a principle of payment by results; and his Grace desires me to invite the attention of the Board to a reconsideration of Lord Hartington's letter of 1st July 1872, in reference to the proposed Supplementary Estimate.

See Appendix
No. 1.

Lord Hartington, in that communication, stated that Her Majesty's Government observed with great regret the small amount of local contributions to the cost of national education in *Ireland*, and that they hesitated to sanction a large addition to the amount provided by the State without requiring at the same time some increased contributions from local sources. He drew attention to the recommendations of the Royal Commissioners on primary education that the Grant should bear a fixed proportion to the amount locally contributed; that all children should either pay fees themselves or be paid for out of a local rate; and that in default of voluntary local payments or school fees, the requisite local contributions should be raised by rates.

Lord Hartington intimated that the Government were of opinion that these or similar provisions ought to be adopted for securing an increase of local contributions, but were unwilling to postpone the consideration of the case of the teachers until the foregoing questions had received the full attention of Parliament; and finally expressed the readiness of the Government (subject to certain protection being secured to teachers against arbitrary dismissal) to propose, as a temporary measure, the adoption of the Supplemental Estimate for a period of three years, on the understanding that at the expiration of that time all questions relating to the position of the teachers, and the relation of the Parliamen-

tary Grant to local contributions, should be brought for reconsideration before the Government and Parliament.

The provisional Grant will, therefore, expire with the present Financial Year.

Her Majesty's Government are anxious, if possible, not to continue any longer the present provisional arrangement beyond the period originally fixed, and to come to some satisfactory solution which, even if not final, can be maintained for a lengthened period, and may afford the basis of a final settlement.

There would appear to be six principal questions to be considered, and his Grace would be glad to be favoured, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, with the views of the Board of National Education upon each of them.

These questions are :—

1. The inadequacy of the remuneration of the National School Teachers.
2. The great disproportion which exists between the contribution of the State and of the localities towards the support of schools.
3. The want of a scheme of pensions for old and disabled teachers.
4. The want of suitable residences for teachers.
5. The irregularity in the attendance of pupils at Irish National Schools.
6. The vast number of untrained teachers employed in the national schools.

Various proposals on the above subjects have been made by the Royal Commission appointed under the presidency of the Earl of Powis, in 1888. Some members of the Board were also members of that Commission, and with one exception joined in the recommendations contained in its Report; but the Government would desire to possess a more general expression of opinion from the whole body of Commissioners before resolving upon the line of action they may be prepared to recommend to Parliament.

As regards Questions Nos. 1 and 2, his Grace thinks it right to state that the Government can hold out no prospect that Parliament would renew the present provisional grant to public teachers on any other principle than that of payment by results; and he therefore invites the Board, in case they should recommend a continuance of this grant, or any substantial increase to it, to look to a development of this principle for the attainment of their object.

His Grace feels bound, at the same time, to impress upon the Board, that it will be difficult to appeal to Parliament for a substantial extension of the grants for payment by results, unless it can be clearly shown that due regard has been paid to some material improvement being effected in the efficiency of the teachers and in the regularity of attendance of the children, and unless some stringent regulations are laid down under which local aid may in a corresponding or material degree be secured.

With reference to Question No. 3, his Grace would be glad to know whether the Board could suggest any plan by which the teachers, if their incomes are raised, might provide themselves with a superannuation fund; and, if so, under what rules and conditions as to their dismissal and retirement.

The want of suitable residences for teachers (Question No. 4) has engaged the anxious attention of Government, and the propriety of providing suitable residences for the teachers of vested schools has been the subject of a recent correspondence between the Irish Government, the Treasury, and the Board. A copy of the aforesaid correspondence is herewith transmitted.

The Commissioners of National Education, in their letter of 30th April last, stated that the question of providing suitable residences for the teachers of non-vested schools was fraught with so many difficulties that they did not for the present offer any suggestion. His Grace fully recognises these difficulties; but would be glad if the Board would be kind enough carefully to reconsider the question, and favour him with their views on the subject.

The irregularity in the attendance of pupils at Irish national schools (Question 5) is a great evil, and cannot but injuriously affect the quality of the education imparted in the schools; and, while his Grace hopes that the present system of payment by results will produce, both in managers and teachers, more

active

active exertions to secure attendance, he would at the same time be glad if some additional inducements could be devised, which, under proper safeguards, would insure a more regular attendance than at present.

It now only remains for his Grace to invite the special attention of the Board to the important subject embraced in Question No. 6.

His Grace understands that in England there are 39 training schools with 2,884 students and a grant of 93,200 *l.*; in Scotland five training schools with 704 students and a grant of 21,500 *l.*; while in Ireland there is only one normal school with 218 students and a grant of 7,460 *l.*, although this deficiency is to some extent supplemented by the system of model schools. It is further to be borne in mind that whereas two years is generally considered the minimum period of residence in a training school, the Irish teachers, with the exception of those who undergo an additional term of special training, remain only about five months in the Marlborough-street normal school. The existing insufficiency of teachers trained even to this extent cannot but injuriously affect the general standard of education. And his Grace observes that in their last Report the Commissioners show that they have 6,284 untrained teachers in their service.

Various remedies have been proposed from time to time to meet this evil, but nothing effectual appears to have been done.

Mr. Fortescue proposed, in 1866, that liberal grants should be made to training schools established by private efforts, such grants to be made without regard to religious denomination, provided that the day school attached to the model or training school submitted to all the rules and educational requirements of the Board, and was open to inspection; and, in respect to the normal establishment in Dublin, he proposed that the teachers should be allowed to lodge out of the official establishment, receiving an allowance in lieu of board and lodging. A copy of Mr. Fortescue's letter is herewith transmitted.

See Appendix,
No. 3.

The Royal Commission of Inquiry in 1868 recommended that the present central establishment should be maintained, the course of training being made for twelve instead of six months, and a fixed payment from private sources being required for each scholar; and that the scholars should be lodged in separate boarding-houses, or with persons approved by the Board, and be under the care of pastors of their own religion; and they further recommended that the aid of the Board should, under certain specified conditions, be given to training schools under the management of committees, voluntary societies, or religious bodies.

His Grace is anxious to bring the recommendations of Mr. Fortescue and of the Royal Commissioners under the notice of the Board, while, at the same time, carefully guarding himself against expressing any opinion upon their respective merits; and, in conclusion, he desires me to state that it would be to him a source of deep gratification if, with the valuable assistance of the Commissioners of National Education, some practical and reasonable scheme could be devised to remedy a state of things which is such a serious obstacle to maintaining at the highest standard the education of the Irish people.

I have, &c.

(signed) *M. E. Hicks Beach.*

To the Secretaries
to the Board of National Education.

APPENDIX, No. 1.

Gentlemen,

Irish Office, 1 July 1872.

WITH reference to your letter of the 13th December last, forwarding a Supplementary Estimate for 104,691 *l.*, for the purpose of increasing the incomes of the National Schools' Teachers in Ireland on a principle of payment by results, I have to inform you that the subject has engaged the most careful consideration of Her Majesty's Government. They have observed with great regret the small amount of local contributions to the cost of national education in Ireland. It appears from the Report of the Royal Commissioners on Primary Education in Ireland, that, in the year 1868, the whole expense of the maintenance of the teachers amounted to 323,795 *l.*, and that the sum of 270,724 *l.* was contributed by the Government, whilst only 45,308 *l.* was obtained from school fees, and 11,963 *l.* from subscriptions and donations, including small endowments.

Her Majesty's Government have hesitated to sanction a large addition to the amount

amount provided by the State, without requiring some increased contribution from local sources.

The Royal Commissioners have recommended that the grant should bear a fixed proportion to the amount locally contributed; that all children should either pay fees themselves, or be paid for out of a local rate, and that, in default of voluntary local payments or school fees, the requisite local contribution should be raised by rates.

The Government are of opinion that these, or similar provisions, ought to be adopted for securing an increase of local contributions; but the time of Parliament has been too much occupied in the present Session to give reason to hope that adequate discussion of questions so important could be looked for.

I am to observe, it is possible, if not probable, that this may also be the case in the next Session, and the Government feel so strongly the necessity of making some improvement in the position of the teachers, that they are unwilling to postpone the consideration of their case until these questions can receive the full attention of Parliament.

There is another part of the question of the position of the teachers which may, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, be dealt with without further delay, and which they think should form part of any, even temporary, measure which may be submitted to Parliament.

The Royal Commissioners recommended that, while the power of appointing and dismissing the teachers should remain in the hands of the managers, some protection should be given to the former against arbitrary or capricious dismissal.

Any considerable addition such as that which it is now proposed to make to the teachers' emoluments, will have the effect of augmenting the power of the managers by increasing the value of the teacher's appointment, and rendering it more easy to obtain the services of a successor to a dismissed teacher; and this, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, makes it still more necessary than ever to give to the teachers reasonable security, that they will not, without adequate cause, be deprived of their appointments.

Her Majesty's Government are aware that the mode in which such security should be given is a question not free from difficulty, and that an objection is entertained by some of the Commissioners to the plan proposed by the Royal Commissioners, under which the Board would undertake the duty of deciding in disputed cases between the manager and the teacher.

Her Majesty's Government are, however, of opinion, that as the salaries and other emoluments of the teachers are paid to them directly by the Board, it is to the Board that they should look for protection against arbitrary dismissal. Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that, with the practical acquaintance with the subject which is possessed by the Board, they will be able to submit a proposal which will ensure to the teachers a real and substantial security.

I have, therefore, with reference to the preceding considerations, to inform you, that the Government desire, before giving their sanction to the Supplemental Estimate, to be favoured with the opinion of the Commissioners on the above subject, and that, upon receiving from the Board a proposal which they shall deem sufficient for the end they have in view, they will propose, as a temporary measure, the adoption of the Supplemental Estimate for a period of three years, on the understanding that, at the expiration of that time, all questions relating to the position of the teachers, and the relation of the Parliamentary Grant to local contribution, shall be brought for re-consideration before the Government and Parliament.

The Commissioners of National Education.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Hertington.*

APPENDIX, No. 2.

(6871.)

Sir,

Irish Office, 18 June 1874.

I AM directed by the Lord Lieutenant to state, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that the subject of residences for teachers of national schools in Ireland has been brought under his notice, with a view to the Government making grants of money in aid of the construction of suitable houses for the teachers.

His Grace has made careful inquiry into the subject, and has been informed that the want of residences is seriously felt by the principal teachers of national schools; that in rural districts the difficulty they meet with in obtaining suitable lodgings is often considerable, while, in some instances, the inconvenience, hardship, and even degradation, teachers, especially females, suffer are very great.

In the Report of the Commission, presided over by the Earl of Powis, it is recommended "that loans under the Land Improvement Act should be authorised for providing teachers' houses," and his Grace, after careful consideration of the subject, is anxious to carry that recommendation in a modified form into effect.

His Grace finds on inquiry that in the case of the non-vested schools (of which class there are over 5,000 in Ireland) the provision of residences for teachers would be beset by so many

many difficulties that, for the present, he does not wish to make any suggestion as regards them. But, in the case of the vested schools (of which there are 2,040 in Ireland, and only 174 of them having teachers' residences attached), his Grace is of opinion that it would be very desirable to grant aid, and he thinks that such aid might be granted on the same conditions as to expenditure and tenure as those on which aid is granted to build school-houses, namely, two-thirds of the cost on a lease of at least 61 years, or 31 years and three lives, the remaining third to be contributed by the persons making the application. The Board of Works should lay down a scale of grants, and, as in the case of school-houses, should prepare plans and specifications.

His Grace is advised that it is probable that, in the event of his proposal being conceded, numerous applications would be made to the National Board for such grants, and for a few years to come the cases might average 60 per annum.

The applications would, of course, emanate from the local managers and patrons, and be dealt with in precisely the same manner as applications to build school-houses. A suitable house might cost 250 *l.*, so that the Parliamentary expenditure for 60 grants would be 15,000 *l.* per annum.

His Grace desires me to request you to be so good as to bring his proposal under the notice of their Lordships, who, he trusts, will give the same their favourable consideration.

I am, &c.

The Secretary, Treasury.

(signed) *M. E. Hicks Beach.*

(10,090.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 25 July 1874.

THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have carefully considered your letter of the 18th ultimo, relative to the provision of residences for national teachers in Ireland, by means of grants to local applicants, amounting to two-thirds of the cost of the erection, at an average annual addition to the Parliamentary Vote of 10,000 *l.* (ten thousand pounds).

My Lords desire me to say, for the information of his Grace the Lord Lieutenant, that they fully admit the utility of this form of endowment, but they see no reason why the system of making grants in aid of public education in Ireland out of all proportion to the rates observed in Great Britain, should be extended to new heads of expenditure. It appears to my Lords to be time that the owners of property in Ireland should be called upon to bear a more adequate share in the local charges, whereby they primarily benefit.

The attention of the Irish Government was called to this subject on the recent occasions of adding to the expense of the Constabulary and of the Dublin Police. The present application raises the same question.

If you will have the goodness to refer to page lxxxvi of the Report of the Committee of Council on Education, 1872-3, and to pp. xxviii-xxxii of the Report 1868-70, you will see on what terms grants are made to build teachers' residences in England and Wales. The ordinary amount is limited to 65 *l.*, but in certain specified parts of Scotland, where the land is exceptionally poor, or the population exceptionally sparse, to half of the total cost.—*Ibid.*, 1872-3, pp. cliii-iii.

My Lords will not object to include in next year's Estimates for education in Ireland a sum not exceeding five thousand pounds (5,000 *l.*) to be expended in grants not exceeding 100 *l.*, nor exceeding half the cost of such teachers' residences, upon terms as closely identical with those observed in Great Britain as difference of tenure, &c., in Ireland will permit. The draft of a minute embodying these terms should be sent to my Lords by the Commissioners of National Education, with the estimates for approval, and in the meantime they request that no announcement whatever of a nature to commit the Government may be made, as my Lords expressly decline to pledge themselves to allow a vote to be proposed to Parliament until they have seen, and in writing approved of the minute.

My Lords will require to be satisfied that due security is taken for confining the extent of the premises to such as the teacher can himself occupy, and for insuring that they shall be so occupied, and shall not be turned into annual endowment, by being let to other tenants at a rent.

They wish it to be distinctly understood that they are not prepared to discuss a larger proportion of public aid for this object.

I am, &c.

The Chief Secretary for Ireland.

(signed) *R. R. W. Lingard.*

(10,723.)

Gentlemen,

Dublin Castle, 10 August 1874.

I AM directed by the Lord Lieutenant to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners of National Education, the enclosed copy of a communication from the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, relative to the cost of the erection of residences

residences for national teachers in Ireland, and I am to state that his Grace would be glad to see the draft minute which their Lordships have requested to be sent with the estimates, before it is forwarded to the Treasury.

I am, &c.
(signed) T. H. Burke.

The Secretaries to the
Commissioners of National Education.

APPENDIX, No. 3.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

19 June 1866.

I AM desired by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have had under their careful consideration several important questions connected with the operation of the national system of education in Ireland, to which they desire to call the attention of the Commissioners, with a view to the adoption of certain alterations which, they believe, would produce great public advantage.

The first point which they request the Board to consider is that of the training of teachers in model schools.

It was originally laid down by Lord Derby as a condition of the employment of teachers, that they should have received previous instruction in a model school, which was accordingly opened in Dublin in 1833.

But, the Commissioners of Education, having thus one normal school only, and having a large and increasing number of teachers to train, were forced to adopt a very limited course of instruction, a course which at first was spread over three months only, and which has never exceeded five months; and notwithstanding this effort to extend, however imperfectly, the influences of training as widely as possible, it appears that there are still in the national schools 4,369 untrained teachers out of a total number of 7,472.

It is of course known to the Government that the district model schools assist in supplying competent teachers; but the number which they are able to send out does not, it appears, exceed 90 annually; while in 34 out of 60 school districts into which the country has been divided, no model school has been established. It is accordingly ascertained that, between the training school in Dublin and the district model schools in the country, the number of persons prepared annually for the office of teacher is only about 400; whereas the number of new teachers, principals or assistants, annually required, is about 900.

The Government view this state of things with much concern, and are anxious to apply a remedy to the incompleteness and inadequacy of the present training system; but, considering the hostility felt and expressed in some quarters, and especially in the Roman Catholic community, to the principle of exclusive State management in the case of model and training schools, they are not prepared to undertake the extension of such schools under such exclusive management. The Government prefer to stimulate private enterprise and private zeal to supply the wants which exist; and they therefore propose to encourage the establishment of model schools under local management.

The following is an outline of the plan which the Government would propose for the consideration of the Board:—

A model school under local management would consist of two parts—

1st.—The domestic establishment, which should have accommodation for at least 15 resident pupils, and which should, in every respect, be suitable to its purpose as part of a training institution.

2nd.—The school-house, which should be of a superior character, and be capable of accommodating at least 150 pupils.

The domestic establishment should be erected from funds derived from private sources.

The school-house may be built either from private funds, as in the case of ordinary non-vested national schools, or partly from private funds and partly from the Parliamentary grant, as in the case of vested national schools. In the former instance the school would be called a non-vested model school, in the latter instance a vested model school.

To the erection of a vested model school-house the Commissioners would contribute in the same proportion of expense as in the case of ordinary schools. The management and general direction of a vested model school would be vested in trustees, who, subject to the Board's approval, would appoint the teachers and would have the absolute power of dismissing them.

The heads of the school should exhibit qualifications for the proper training of students in the art of teaching and the organisation of schools.

The day-school must be open to pupils of all denominations, and must be conducted exactly upon the principle of an ordinary national school. A course of study for students in training would be laid down by the Board. For each student who should pass a satisfactory examination a grant should be made by the Board. The Government would look to the Board for advice as to the amount of such grant, and also for the suggestion of all regulations of detail necessary to carry into effect the plan which I have described.

Her Majesty's Government, in the next place, strongly recommend a revision of the arrangements

arrangements for the reception of teachers in training in force in the normal establishment in Dublin, with the view of providing, if possible, an ampler and more practical course of instruction for a larger number of teachers.

They desire also to observe that there is a marked distinction between the position of students residing for a considerable time as boarders in a training institute or model school and that of day scholars attending an ordinary school; a distinction which accounts for the fact that objections are often entertained, especially by the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church, against sending teachers or pupil-teachers to an institution where their domestic life is not based, like the family life of a home, upon identity of religious belief.

It appears to the Government that the double object of meeting such objections and of providing the means of retaining a larger number of teachers for a longer period in training might to a great extent be attained by permitting teachers or pupil-teachers, at their own desire or at that of the managers of schools by whom they are sent up for training, to board and lodge out of the official establishment. In such cases teachers and pupil-teachers should receive an allowance in lieu of board and lodging, and arrangements could readily be made for their reception in private boarding-houses sanctioned by the Commissioners. If a precedent were needed for such an arrangement, I find that in the Scotch Presbyterian training colleges there are no official residences for the teachers in training, who, by means of an allowance from the college, provide board and lodging for themselves.

The Government are further of opinion that, considering the nature of these institutions, in which the Commissioners stand to a great extent towards the teachers and pupil-teachers *in loco parentis*, and in which large numbers of children of different religious denominations are drawn together without that local supervision, either lay or clerical, which the patron or manager affords to an ordinary national school, some special provision should be made for the religious instruction and supervision of the inmates; and with this view they recommend the appointment of chaplains in connection with the central training and district model schools, upon the following conditions:—

The Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the bishop or other authority of the church to which they belong, should appoint as chaplains resident clergymen of each denomination.

The chaplain should have control, subject to the rules of the Board, over the religious instruction of the teachers in training and pupils of his own denomination.

It would be especially his duty to watch over those teachers who, under the last proposal, should reside out of the official establishment.

The Commissioners should require his certificate as a condition of granting or continuing their licence to a boarding-house for the use of teachers of his own denomination.

He should be remunerated by a capitation allowance for the teachers in training and the pupils belonging to his own Church, his total income not, however, exceeding some fixed amount.

Every teacher of a model school would, as at present, be appointed by the Commissioners, subject to the possession of a certificate as to faith and morals from the chaplain of his own religious denomination.

Finally, I am directed by his Excellency to inform you that Her Majesty's Government are desirous of drawing the attention of the Commissioners to the important principle upon which the remuneration of the teachers of schools supported by the State has, with such marked success, been recently regulated in England and Scotland; I refer to the principle of State payments being apportioned to the ascertained results of education.

The Government do not urge upon the Commissioners the general adoption of this principle as an immediate change in the Irish system. They propose its early introduction in certain cases where it might properly be tried at once, as in that of the model schools, to be followed by its gradual development, not necessarily in the precise form which it has assumed in England, but with such modifications and adaptations as the Commissioners, profiting by English experience, with their own knowledge of the wants and circumstances of Ireland, may recommend. I may add, that I should hope that, as one effect of the change, the incomes of meritorious teachers would thereby be improved.

The Lord Lieutenant invites the immediate consideration of the Commissioners to the proposals herein contained, and requests to be favoured with their views thereon as soon as possible.

I have, &c.

(signed) C. P. Fortescue.

To the Commissioners of National Education.

COPY of a LETTER addressed to Sir Michael E. Hicks Beach, Bart., M.P.,
Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Office of National Education, Dublin,
10 December 1874.

Sir,

We are instructed by the Commissioners of National Education to inform you that they have had under consideration your letter of the 8th November, in which you state that his Grace the Lord Lieutenant would be glad to learn the views of the Board upon each of the following questions, viz. :—

- (1.) The inadequacy of the remuneration of the National School teachers.
- (2.) The great disproportion which exists between the contribution of the State and of the localities towards the support of schools.
- (3.) The want of a scheme of pensions for old and disabled teachers.
- (4.) The want of suitable residences for teachers.
- (5.) The irregularity in the attendance of pupils at Irish National schools.
- (6.) The vast number of untrained teachers employed in the National schools.

To these questions, and to the observations which his Grace has desired you to make in reference to them, the Commissioners have given their best consideration; and we are now directed to state, for the information of his Grace, the conclusions at which the Board has arrived on each of them.

Question 1.—“The inadequacy of the remuneration of the National School Teachers.”

The Commissioners, when considering this question, took occasion to review the salaries awarded by the Board to the National teachers at the different periods of a change in the scale of payment since the institution of the National system, and they have directed us to append to this letter an abstract of the salaries granted at each of these successive periods. [See Appendix 1.]

The Commissioners also have made minute inquiry to ascertain the incomes from all sources at present derived by the principal teachers for services rendered in conducting national schools, excluding private tuitions, science and art payments, and other emoluments earned out of school hours, and have found that, on the average, those incomes are as follows :—

CLASS or TEACHERS.	Average Income of Male Principal Teachers.					Average Income of Female Principal Teachers.				
	Number of Teachers in Class.	Class Salary, and Good Service Salary.	Results, Fees, Gratifications, &c., from Board.	Local Contributions.	Total.	Number of Teachers in Class.	Class Salary, and Good Service Salary.	Results, Fees, Gratifications, &c., from Board.	Local Contributions.	Total.
First of First Class - -	93	£. s. d. 61 6 3	£. s. d. 25 3 10	£. s. d. 29 3 11	£. s. d. 116 17 10	59	£. s. d. 48 14 2	£. s. d. 23 10 6	£. s. d. 18 17 9	£. s. d. 90 2 3
Second of First Class - -	336	44 5 8	10 14 11	15 7 -	83 7 7	226	35 7 5	10 15 18	14 2 2	60 5 3
Second Class - - -	1,043	33 8 3	17 6 10	19 7 3	62 2 4	823	24 18 2	14 16 5	3 4 3	48 - 10
Third Class - - -	1,916	24 15 4	11 11 8	7 6 3	43 13 5	823	21 2 5	10 19 -	3 10 3	37 11 8
Average of all Classes -	-	80 5 11	14 16 11	10 15 7	55 14 5	-	25 4 11	14 2 8	6 6 2	45 13 9

The Commissioners look with some satisfaction to the result of their inquiry, so far as it exhibits the condition of the first class teachers, not only in regard to the personal salaries from the Board enjoyed by these teachers, and the substantial quota of results fees earned by them, but also in respect to the amount of local contributions which they command. The Commissioners, however, desire it to be borne in mind that the teachers of the first class are a very small proportion of the whole body of the teachers, that they have charge of the largest

largest and best schools, and that, for obvious reasons, it is desirable to be able to point to the comparatively high pecuniary results of their labours as a stimulus to the teachers of the other class.

The Commissioners are of opinion that having regard to the high qualifications and valuable services of the first-class teachers, their pay, as a matter of justice and policy, ought to be still further, to a moderate degree, increased; and that the remuneration of the second and third class teachers, whether it be compared with the importance of their services, or with the earnings of persons of corresponding acquirements in other employments, is still inadequate.

They are of opinion that if, in addition to the provisional grant for payments for results, which next year, if the grant be renewed, will amount to at least 120,000 £, there were an additional grant of a like sum, viz., 120,000 £ (also to be expended in payments for results), the incomes of the national teachers would then be placed on a satisfactory footing.

We are, therefore, directed to state that the Commissioners recommend a renewal, as a permanent arrangement, of the provisional grant for results, viz., for 1875-76, 120,000 £; and that they further recommend that an additional grant of 120,000 £ should also be made, to be applied to the same purpose, making the total payments for results in 1875-76, 240,000 £.

The average incomes of the different classes of Principal Teachers would then, it is estimated, be as follows:—

C L A S S.	M A L E S.		F E M A L E S.	
	Number in Class.	Average Income.	Number in Class.	Average Income.
		£. s. d.		£. s. d.
First of First Class - - -	93	140 17 3	59	116 12 8
Second of First Class . - -	836	102 13 9	226	87 7 8
Second Class - - - - -	1,263	78 9 9	619	62 2 10
Third Class - - - - -	1,918	54 15 10	623	48 2 7
Average Income of all Classes	- -	69 16 6	- -	59 - 8

Question 2.—“The great Disproportion which exists between the Contribution of the State and of the localities towards the support of Schools.”

The Commissioners direct us to say that they see no mode of substantially increasing the amount of the local contributions, except by the levy of a rate; but, upon the expediency of adopting that course, the Board do not think it to be within their province to tender any advice.

Question 3.—“The want of a Scheme of Pensions for old and disabled Teachers.”

The Commissioners are of opinion that a scheme might be advantageously established on some such basis as that of the Post Office system of annuities, calculated on the principle of the “Money Returnable” Tables in the Post Office Regulations, and that the State should contribute some proportion of the premium annually payable by the teachers.

If the Government adopt this suggestion, the Commissioners will submit a statement in detail as to the means of carrying it out.

Question 4.—“The want of suitable Residences for Teachers.”

The Commissioners have already expressed, for the information of the Government, their views upon this important subject as far as they relate to vested schools.

They have again considered the question in its bearings on the non-vested schools, and they have arrived at the conclusion that the wisest course would be to adopt a modification of the recommendations of Lord Powis's Commission,

which suggested that loans under the Land Improvement Act should be authorised for providing teachers' residences. The provisions of the Glebe Loan Act might also, in the opinion of the Commissioners, be usefully applied to any measure which may be framed on this subject.

The Commissioners are further of opinion that *half* the annual instalment payable to the Board of Works under the provisions of these Acts, ought to be paid by the National Board, provided such moiety should not exceed the sum of 5 *l.*

It is estimated that a suitable residence could be erected for 200 *l.* The annual instalment at 5 per cent. for 35 years to be paid to the Board of Works for a loan of that amount would be 10 *l.*

The proposal of the Commissioners is to pay 5 *l.* of this instalment yearly, so long as the house is *bona fide* used as the residence of the principal teacher of a non-vested national school, the teacher or local authorities of the school paying the other half.

The plans of the houses should, of course, be subject to the approval of the Commissioners, and also of the Board of Works. Questions as to tenure, occupancy, &c., would be matters of detail easily settled by the Commissioners and by the Board of Works.

Question 5.—“The Irregularity in the Attendance of Pupils at Irish National Schools.”

This is a subject which from year to year has occupied the serious attention of the Board. The Commissioners regret the disproportion which exists in their schools between the average attendance and the number on the rolls. The habit, and, in a vast proportion of cases, the necessity, of the Irish farmer to make his children, however young, take part in the spring and harvest operations of the farm, have much to say to this unfortunate result; and when it is remembered that there are in the country upwards of 300,000 holdings, the value of each of which does not exceed 8 *l.*, it cannot be a matter of surprise that this habit or necessity of bringing into requisition the labour of the children causes great periodical reductions in the attendance at the schools.

The Commissioners have endeavoured, as the only remedy at their command, to make the schools as attractive to the children and their parents as possible, and the liberality of Parliament in awarding grants for payments for results during the last three years has proved to be a salutary stimulus in this direction. The Commissioners in their last Report had the satisfaction of informing his Grace that, whilst there was an increase in the number of individual pupils actually attending the schools in 1873, as compared with 1872, of only 14,262, the average daily attendance had increased by 17,550, thus indicating a decided improvement in the regularity of the children's attendance.

Question No. 6.—“The vast Number of untrained Teachers employed in the National Schools.”

The Commissioners have carefully weighed his Grace's representation of the statistics of the Training Institutions of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and also of the shortness of the five months' training course of the Irish Normal Schools, compared with the two years' course of English and Scotch Training Colleges, and further, they have given their best consideration to his Grace's opinion that “the existing insufficiency of teachers trained even to this extent, cannot but injuriously affect the general standard of education.”

The recommendations contained in Mr. Fortescue's letter of the 19th June 1866, and in the Report of the Royal Commissioners, which his Grace was anxious to bring under the notice of the Board, have also been fully considered.

The Commissioners, in the first place, have felt it to be their duty to consider the arrangements of their normal establishment in Dublin, in view of the objections of those who maintain that the domestic life of the students in training should be based, like the family life of a home, upon identity of religious belief.

Hitherto, all the students of the different denominations in training have not only attended in common the secular instruction of the professors, but have also at all other times lived together in the same boarding-houses. The Commissioners

sioners do not deem it advisable to depart from this system in the case of students who elect to reside in the Commissioners' boarding-houses; but with a view of meeting the objection as to common domestic life already alluded to, and further with the view of extending the operation of their training establishment, they are of opinion that the system at present in force in the Marlborough-street Training School might advantageously be modified by permitting those who are admitted to the training school to reside in private boarding-houses; these boarding-houses to be approved of by the Commissioners, and to receive a grant sufficient to defray the cost of living of the pupils so resident. These houses might, if desired, be superintended by clergymen of the same denomination with the resident pupils.

The Commissioners have besides had to consider the question of the training of teachers in the larger sense. They have ascertained that the number of teachers, trained and untrained, of the different religious denominations, at present in the service, is as follows:—

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS.	TRAINED.							UNTRAINED.						
	MALES.		FEMALES.		TOTAL.		TOTAL.	MALES.		FEMALES.		TOTAL.		TOTAL.
	Principal.	Assistant.	Principal.	Assistant.	Principal.	Assistant.		Principal.	Assistant.	Principal.	Assistant.	Principal.	Assistant.	
Roman Catholic	1,000	73	728	173	2,704	246	2,949	1,033	343	1,369	1,500	9,902	2,106	5,907
Established Church	220	19	121	37	550	70	620	107	15	79	115	345	104	449
Presbyterians	455	22	145	75	630	100	730	197	27	100	121	297	555	694
Others	20	—	10	5	46	5	50	20	1	19	35	41	40	81
TOTALS	2,575	134	1,003	310	3,418	426	3,842	2,045	688	1,461	2,544	2,185	2,632	4,117

The Board do not deem it necessary to make any comment on these statistics, but have directed us to state, for the information of his Grace, that whilst they shall make every effort to maintain at the highest point of efficiency their own training establishment in Marlborough-street, they are of opinion that they should be authorised to grant aid to non-vested national training colleges, such colleges to be conducted on the fundamental principles of the national system of education.

The Board, then, have come to the conclusion that aid should be given to such non-vested training colleges on the following conditions:—

(a.) A training college will include—

(1.) A college for instructing candidates for the office of national teacher.

(2.) A practising national school in which such candidates may learn the exercise of their profession.

(b.) No grant will be made to a training college unless its secular teaching is available to students of all religious denominations, and unless the Board be satisfied with the locality, premises, management, and staff.

(c.) A stated number of hours, not less than six daily, including the hours set apart for secular business in the practising national school, must be devoted to secular business under the rules as to time tables applicable to ordinary national schools.

(d.) The practising school in connection with a training college must be a national school, to which aid will be granted on the same conditions as to other national schools.

(e.) Grants will be made to the credit of each college, of 100 *l.* for every master, and 70 *l.* for every mistress, with a first-class training certificate, or of 80 *l.* for every master, and of 55 *l.* for every mistress, with

a second-class training certificate, who, having been trained in such college for two years, shall have been continuously engaged as teacher of a national school for two years subsequently to his or her training, and shall during such years have been favourably reported upon by the inspector.

(f.) If the master or mistress be trained for only one year, one-half the amount specified in the previous paragraph will be granted on the same conditions.

(g.) The grants must not exceed 75 per cent. of the actual expenditure of the college for the year, certified in such manner as the Board may require.

(h.) (1.) An instalment, 6 *l.* for males, 5 *l.* for females, will be paid quarterly in respect of every student attending for continuous training throughout the year.

(2.) The balance due to the college will be adjusted as soon as the college accounts for the year have been closed, audited, and approved by the Board.

(i.) An examination of candidates for admission to the training colleges will be held annually, by a head and a district inspector, at each college, at a time appointed by the Board.

(j.) The programme of examination for admission will embrace the subjects required for the classification of third-class national teachers.

(k.) The candidates will be admitted to the examination on the recommendation of the managers of the college, or of any patron or manager of an Irish national school, subject to the conditions —

(1.) That they shall make a solemn declaration that they intend *bonâ fide* to follow the profession of national school teachers.

(2.) That their health is satisfactory, and that they are free from any serious bodily defect or deformity.

(3.) That they are at least in the 18th year of their age.

(4.) An examination of the students of each college will be held annually by a head and a district inspector of the Board, and any student failing to get a satisfactory certificate for each year of his or her training will not be reckoned as entitling the college to a grant for the year in question.

His Grace will observe by reference to the Minutes that considerable differences exist among the Commissioners with regard to the propriety of adopting this scheme.

In conclusion, we are directed to express an earnest hope that his Grace the Lord Lieutenant may be able to find in this Report of their proceedings, the Minutes of which in detail are appended, such an elucidation of the views of the Board as will help to guide him in a settlement of the important questions which he has submitted to the Commissioners.

We have, &c.
 (signed) *James Kelly,*
 W. H. Newell, } Secretaries.

APPENDIX, No. 1.

SCALES in force for Payment of the CLASS SALARIES of NATIONAL TEACHERS from the Beginning.

Period during which in Force.	MALES								FEMALES							
	1st Class.			2nd Class.		3rd Class.			1st Class.			2nd Class.		3rd Class.		
	First Division.	Second Division.	Third Division.	First Division.	Second Division.	First Division.	Second Division.		First Division.	Second Division.	Third Division.	First Division.	Second Division.	First Division.	Second Division.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
From 1822 to 1828 No. Classes of Teachers.	-	-	-	-	-	-	10		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
From 1829 to 1840 No. Divisions in Classes.	20	-	-	15	-	12	-		15	-	-	12	-	10	-	
From 1841 to 1849	30	25	22	30	18	15	14		24	20	18	15	14	13	12	
From 1850 to 1851	30	25	22	31	19	17	15		24	20	18	16	15	14	13	
From 1851 to 1852	35	28	24	33	20	17	15		24	20	18	16	15	14	13	
From 1852 to 1853	30	20	15	22	20	18	15		20	19	19	17	16	15	13	
From 1853 to 1859	40	30	25	30	24	20	17		30	24	24	24	20	17	16	
From 1860 to 1860	50	40	30	30	25	22	18		40	34	34	34	28	19	16	
From 1860 to 1873	52	44	38	32	28	24	18		42	36	36	36	34	29	18	
Present Scale	52	38	One Division abolished.	39	30	24	24		42	36	One Division abolished.	34	24	20	20	

APPENDIX, No. 2.

EXTRACT from Minutes of Board, dated the 10th November 1874.

Present:

L. Waldron, Esq., D.L.
 Rev. Dr. Henry, President Queen's
 College, Belfast.
 His Grace the Duke of Leinster.
 Right Hon. Judge Longfield.
 Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson.
 J. Lestaigne, Esq., C.B.

J. O'Hagan, Esq., Q.O.
 Right Hon. Mr. Justice FitzGerald.
 J. W. Murland, Esq.
 Right Hon. Mr. Justice Morris.
 Rev. C. L. Morell.
 Rev. J. H. Jellett, A.P. Y.C.D.
 P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.

Jas. Kelly, Esq., Secretary.

Chairman.—The Duke of Leinster.

READ letter from the Chief Secretary for Ireland (1897—1874) stating that the Lord Lieutenant would be glad to be favoured with the views of the Board on the following questions:—

1. "The inadequacy of the remuneration of the National School teachers.
2. "The great disproportion which exists between the contribution of the State and the localities towards the support of schools.
3. "The want of a scheme of pensions for old and disabled teachers.
4. "The want of suitable residences for teachers.
5. "The irregularity in the attendance of pupils at Irish National Schools.
6. "The vast number of untrained teachers employed in the National Schools."

Ordered, That special meetings of the Board be summoned for the 19th and 20th instant at half-past three o'clock, to consider the several questions contained in the Chief Secretary's letter, and that a copy of the letter of the 17th June 1874 to the Under Secretary be sent to each Commissioner.

BOARD (Special).—19th November 1874, 3.30 o'clock.

Present:

James Gibson, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson.
John Lentaigne, Esq., C.B.
John O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice FitzGerald.
James W. Murland, Esq.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice Morris.

Rev. C. L. Morell.
Rev. J. H. Jellett, S.P. T.C.D.
Right Hon. Viscount Monck, G.C.M.G.
Sir D. Corrigan, Bart., M.D.
Hon. Jenico W. Preston.
P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.

James Kelly, Esq., Secretary.

Chairman—James Gibson, Esq., Q.C.

The Commissioners proceed to consider the letter of the Chief Secretary, dated 5th November 1874.

Question No. 1.—“The inadequacy of the remuneration of the National School Teachers.

The Commissioners having carefully reviewed the salaries awarded by the Board to the national teachers at the different periods of a change of scale, and also having made a minute investigation into the incomes, including salary and emoluments, at present enjoyed by the teachers, are of opinion,

1st. That the incomes of the teachers are still inadequate.

2nd. They recommend a renewal as a permanent arrangement of the provisional grant for results payments, which it is estimated would in the financial year 1875-76 amount to 120,000 l.

3rd. The Commissioners further recommend that an additional grant of 120,000 l. should also be made to be applied to payments for results, making the total of payments for results 240,000 l.”

Question No. 2.—“The great disproportion which exists between the contribution of the State and of the localities towards the support of schools.”

The Commissioners see no mode of substantially increasing the amount of local contributions except by the levy of a rate, but upon the expediency of adopting that course the Board do not think it to be within their province to tender any advice.

The meeting adjourns to the 20th instant at 7.30 o'clock.

BOARD (Special).—20th November 1874, 3.30 o'clock.

Present:

James Gibson, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. Mr. Longfield.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson.
Lawrence Waldron, Esq., D.L.
John Lentaigne, Esq., C.B.
John O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice FitzGerald.

James W. Murland, Esq.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Right Hon. Viscount Monck, G.C.M.G.
Sir D. Corrigan, Bart., M.D.
Hon. Jenico W. Preston.
P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.

James Kelly, Esq., Secretary.

Chairman—John Lentaigne, Esq., C.B.

The Commissioners resume the consideration of the Chief Secretary's letter of the 5th instant.

Question No. 3.—“The want of a scheme of pensions for old and disabled teachers.”

The final consideration of this question is deferred to the next meeting of the Board.

Question No. 4.—“Want of suitable residences for teachers.”

The final consideration of this question is deferred to the next meeting of the Board.

Question No. 5.—“The irregularity in the attendance of pupils at Irish National Schools.”

After full consideration of this question, the Commissioners desire to express their conviction that, as the only means of improving the regularity of attendance in their power, they have endeavoured from time to time to make the schools as attractive as possible to the children and their parents, and the liberality of Parliament in awarding grants for payments for results during the last three years has proved to be a salutary stimulus in this direction. The Commissioners in their last Report (1873) had the satisfaction of informing His Grace the Lord Lieutenant, that “there was an increase in the number of individual pupils actually attending the schools in 1873, as compared with 1872, of 14,262, and in the average daily attendance of 17,550.”

Question

Question No. 3.—“The vast number of untrained teachers employed in the National Schools.”

During the consideration of this question the Resident Commissioner reads a memorandum on the subject, which is ordered to be printed and circulated amongst the Commissioners, to be considered at the next meeting of the Board.

The consideration of the Chief Secretary's letter to be resumed at the meeting of the 24th instant.

EXTRACTS from Minutes of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 24th November 1874,
3.30 o'clock.

Present:

Lawrence Waldron, Esq., D.L.
Rev. Dr. Henry, President
Queen's College, Belfast.
James Gibson, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. M. Longfield.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson.
J. Lentaigue, Esq., C.B.
J. O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice FitzGerald.

J. W. Murland, Esq.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice Morris.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Rev. J. H. Jellett, S.F., T.C.D.
The Lord Primate.
Right Hon. Viscount Monck, G.C.M.G.
Sir D. J. Corrigan, Bart., M.D.
Hon. Jenico Preston, D.L.
P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.

J. Kelly, Esq., Secretary.

Chairman—Rev. Dr. Henry.

The letter of the Chief Secretary for Ireland, dated 5th November, is further considered.

As to Question 3.—“Want of a scheme of pensions for teachers.”

Ordered, That the Commissioners point to the Post Office annuity system, money returnable, as a suitable plan, but suggest that the Government should aid the teachers in the payment of the annual pension.

Question 4.—“The want of suitable residences for teachers.”

The Commissioners recommend that loans under the “Land Improvement Act” and of the “Globe Loan Act” should be authorised, by providing teachers' houses, and suggest that half the annual instalment payable to the Board of Works, under the provisions of these Acts, should be paid by this Board, provided such moiety does not exceed the sum of 5*l*. The other moiety to be paid by the teacher or local authorities of the school.

On Question 6.—“Large number of untrained teachers,”—the Rev. Professor J. H. Jellett proposes—

“The Commissioners are of opinion that the system at present in force in the Marlborough Street Training School might advantageously be modified, by permitting those who are admitted to the Training School to reside in private boarding-houses to be approved of by the Commissioners, and to receive a grant sufficient to defray the cost of living of the pupils so resident.

“These houses, might, if desired, be superintended by clergymen of the same denomination with the resident pupils.”

The Commissioners being divided in opinion, vote as follows:—

For (14).

Rev. Dr. Henry.
J. Gibson, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. M. Longfield.
L. Waldron, Esq.
D. L. J. Lentaigue, Esq., C.B.
J. O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
Mr. Justice FitzGerald.
J. W. Murland, Esq.
Mr. Justice Morris.
Rev. J. W. Jellett.
Right Hon. Viscount Monck.
P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.
Sir D. J. Corrigan, Bart.
Hon. Jenico W. Preston.

Against (2).

Mr. Justice Lawson.
Rev. C. L. Morell.

The Most Reverend the Archbishop of Armagh declines to vote.

The motion is declared carried by a majority of 12.

The Reverend Professor Jellet then proposed :—

"The Commissioners do not think it expedient that teachers of National Schools should be trained under any system in which the fundamental principle of National Education, namely, united secular instruction, is not fully recognised."

Proposed as an amendment, by Mr. Justice Fitzgerald :—

"That the Commissioners shall first proceed to consider the plan of the Resident Commissioner."

The amendment being put, the votes are—

For (9).

Right Hon. M. Longfield.
Lawrence Waldron, D.L.
J. Lentaigue, Esq., C.B.
J. O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
Mr. Justice FitzGerald.
J. W. Murland, Esq.
P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.
Sir D. Corrigan, Bart.
Hon. J. W. Preston.

Against (7).

Rev. Dr. Henry.
J. Gibson, Esq., Q.C.
Mr. Justice Lawson.
Mr. Justice Morris.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Rev. J. H. Jellett.
Most Rev. Archbishop of Armagh.

The amendment is declared carried by a majority of two.

The Commissioners postpone the further consideration of the Chief Secretary's letter to Tuesday next, the 1st December 1874.

EXTRACT from Minutes of the Proceedings of the Board, dated 1st December 1874.

Present:

The Duke of Leinster.
James Gibson, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. M. Longfield.
Right Hon. Lord Chief Justice Monahan.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson.
J. Lentaigue, Esq., C.B.
J. O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice FitzGerald.

J. W. Murland, Esq.
Right Hon. Mr. Justice Morris.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Rev. J. H. Jellett, S.F., T.C.D.
The Most Rev. the Lord Primate.
Right Hon. the Viscount Monck.
Sir D. Corrigan, Bart., M.D.
Hon. Jenico Preston.
P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.

James Kelly, Esq., Secretary.

Chairman—The Duke of Leinster.

The Commissioners resume the consideration of the Chief Secretary's letter of the 5th November.

Question 6.—"The vast number of the untrained teachers employed in the National Schools."

The Resident Commissioner proposes the following resolution :—

"That whilst we shall make every effort to maintain, at the highest point of efficiency, our own training establishment in Marlborough-street, we are of opinion that the Commissioners of National Education should be authorised to grant aid to non-vested National Training Colleges; such colleges to be conducted on the fundamental principles of the National System of Education."

The Right Honourable Judge Lawson proposes the following amendment :—

"That the plan proposed by the Resident Commissioner being in effect a plan for the endowment of Training Colleges of a denominational character, in which the appointment of the officers, &c. would be vested in the managers of such colleges without any control on the part of the Board, and where the teachers would be trained in a spirit hostile to the principles of mixed education, the Commissioners are of opinion that its adoption would be calculated to subvert the fundamental principles of National Education."

The amendment being put, the votes are—

For (8).

James Gibson, Esq.
J. W. Murland, Esq.
Rev. J. H. Jellett.
Mr. Justice Lawson.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Most Rev. Archbishop of Armagh.

Against (10).

Duke of Leinster.
Right Hon. M. Longfield.
Chief Justice Monahan.
J. Lentaigue, Esq.
J. O'Hagan, Esq.
Mr. Justice FitzGerald.
Right Hon. Viscount Monck.
P. J. Keenan, Esq.
Sir Dominic Corrigan.
Hon. J. W. Preston.

Mr.

Mr. Justice Morris declines to vote.

The amendment is declared lost by a majority of four.

The original resolution being put, the votes are,—

For (10).
Duke of Leinster.
Right Hon. M. Longfield.
Chief Justice Monahan.
J. Lentaigue, Esq.
J. O'Hagan, Esq.
Mr. Justice Fitzgerald.
Viscount Monck.
P. J. Keenan, Esq.
Sir Dominic Corrigan.
Hon. J. W. Preston.

Against (7).
J. Gibson, Esq.
Mr. Justice Lawson.
J. W. Murland.
Mr. Justice Morris.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Rev. J. W. Jellett.
The Most Rev. Archbishop of
Armagh.

The resolution is declared carried by a majority of three.

The Resident Commissioner then proposes that aid be given to such non-vested Training Colleges on the following conditions:—

(a.) A Training College will include,—

(1.) A college for instructing candidates for the office of National Teacher.

(2.) A practising National School, in which such candidates may learn the exercise of their profession.

(b.) No grant will be made to a Training College unless its secular teaching is available to students of all religious denominations, and unless the Board be satisfied with the locality, premises, management, and staff.

(c.) A stated number of hours, not less than six daily, including the hours set apart for secular business, in the practising National School, must be devoted to secular business, under the rules as to time tables applicable to ordinary National Schools.

(d.) The practising school in connection with a Training College must be a National School to which aid will be granted on the same conditions as to other National Schools.

(e.) Grants will be made to the credit of each college of 100 l. for every master, and of 70 l. for every mistress, with a first-class training certificate, or of 80 l. for every master, and of 56 l. for every mistress, with a second-class training certificate who having been trained in such college for two years shall have been continuously engaged as teacher of a National School for two years subsequently to his or her training, and shall during such years have been favourably reported on by the inspector.

(f.) If the master or mistress be trained for only one year, one half the amount specified in the previous paragraph will be granted on the same conditions.

(g.) The grants must not exceed 75 per cent. of the actual expenditure of the college for the year certified, in such manner as the Board may require.

(h.) (1.) An instalment, 6 l. for males, 5 l. for females, will be paid quarterly in respect of every student attending for continuous training throughout the year.

(2.) The balance due to the college will be adjusted as soon as the college accounts for the year have been closed, audited, and approved by the Board.

(i.) An examination of candidates for admission to the Training Colleges will be held annually by a head and a district inspector at each college, at a time appointed by the Board.

(j.) The programme of examination for admission will embrace the subjects required for the classification of third-class national teachers.

(k.) The candidates will be admitted to the examination on the recommendation of the managers of the college, or of any patron or manager of an Irish National School, subject to the conditions:—

(1.) That they shall make a solemn declaration that they intend, *bona fide*, to follow the profession of national school teachers.

(2.) That their health is satisfactory, and that they are free from any serious bodily defect or deformity.

(3.) That they are at least in the 18th year of their age.

(l.) An examination of the students of each college will be held annually by a head and a district inspector of the Board, and any student failing to get a certificate for each year of his or her training will not be reckoned as entitling the college to a grant for the year in question.

The resolution being put, the votes are,—

For (10).

The Duke of Leinster.
Right Hon. M. Longfield.
Chief Justice Monahan.
J. Lentaigue, Esq.
J. O'Hagan, Esq.
Mr. Justice Fitzgerald.
Lord Viscount Monck.
P. J. Keenan, Esq.
Sir D. Corrigan.
Hon. J. W. Preston.

Against (7).

J. Gibson, Esq.
J. W. Murland, Esq.
Mr. Justice Lawson.
Mr. Justice Morris.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Rev. J. H. Jellett.
Most Rev. the Archbishop of Armagh.

The resolution is declared carried by a majority of three.

The Resident Commissioner is requested to prepare draft of letter in reply to Chief Secretary's letter of 5th November, to be submitted to Board at its next meeting.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Proceedings of the Board of National Education,
dated 8th December 1874.

Present :

His Grace the Duke of Leinster.
L. Waldron, Esq., D.L.
James Gibson, Esq., D.L.
The Right Hon. M. Longfield.
The Right Hon. Lord Chief Justice Monahan.
The Right Hon. Mr. Justice Lawson.
J. Lentaigue, Esq., C.B.

John O'Hagan, Esq., Q.C.
J. W. Murland, Esq.
Rev. C. L. Morell.
Rev. J. H. Jellett, A.R.T.C.D.
Sir D. Corrigan, Bart.
The Hon. Jenico Preston, D.L.N.D.
P. J. Keenan, Esq., C.B.

James Kelly, Esq., Secretary.

Chairman—The Duke of Leinster; afterwards, James Gibson, Esq.

Read the following letter from the Rev. Dr. Henry, President, Queen's College, Belfast, dated 7th December 1874.

"Queen's College, Belfast,
7 December 1874.

"Gentlemen,

"As I have not sufficiently recovered from the cold which prevented me from attending the Board on last Tuesday to permit me to undertake, even yet, a journey to Dublin, I beg through you to express to the Commissioners of Education my regret that the amendment of Judge Lawson in reference to the proposed new Training College, and of which I entirely approve, has not been adopted. At a previous meeting I was glad to support the resolution of Professor Jellett in reference to the system hitherto in force in the Marlborough-street Training School, giving, as that resolution does, permission to the future teachers in training there to reside in private boarding-houses. I had hoped that this modification, if extended to the new contemplated Training Schools, would give general satisfaction without any violation of the fundamental rule of "United Secular and separate Religious Instruction," and free even from the suspicion of the adoption of the Denominational system pure and simple, however ambiguously delineated in establishments to be carried on under the administration of the Board of National Education, and by funds contributed by Parliament and the State. I still trust that some solution of the difficulty of procuring a sufficient number of well-trained teachers of the different denominations may be found without infringing the long-tried principles which has conferred inestimable blessings on the country. Had my health allowed me to be present on Tuesday last, I certainly would have supported Judge Lawson's amendment, not only on the grounds of objection it sets forth, but from the conviction that Mr. Keenan's resolution would introduce incongruous systems and principles so opposite amongst all our schools, as soon, very soon, to be destructive of one another. In the Central Marlborough-street Training School, the system would continue as it is, for, I presume, that no immediate attempt would be made to subvert it; the model and elementary schools would remain for a time on their present foundation, whilst the teachers that would be supplied to them from the new Training Schools will have been disciplined, and confided in, and prepared to promote objects of a wholly opposite and sectarian and antagonistic character.

I hope still to assist in having some safe, consistent, and practicable scheme adopted to secure a sufficient number of teachers of the different denominations to carry out efficiently the

the system of "United Secular and separate Religious Instructions" which, and nothing else, the Commissioners have been appointed to administer.

Will you oblige me by reading this letter to the Board to-morrow, in order that it may be placed on the Minutes.

"I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. Shuidham Henry.

Ordered,—That Mr. Henry's letter be entered on the Minutes of the Board.

The Commissioners consider the reply to be given to the Chief Secretary's letter of the 5th November 1874, and approve of the following.*

* See the accompanying letter of the 10th December 1874.

COPY of a LETTER from the Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to the Commissioners of National Education.

(17098.)

Gentlemen,

Dublin Castle, 14 December 1874.

I AM directed by the Lord Lieutenant to acknowledge with thanks, the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, conveying the views of the Board of National Education upon the various questions referred to in my letter of the 6th ultimo.

I am, &c.

(signed) *M. E. Hicks Beach.*

The Secretaries to the
Commissioners of National Education.

NATIONAL DEPOSITORY COMMISSIONERS
(OFFICE)

COPY of a Letter of the 4th December 1824, of
the Comptroller-General to the Bank of Ireland
of Dublin to the Commissioners of Customs
Revenue in Dublin, and of their Reply to
the same.

(Mr. O'Sullivan)

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